

Coins

'Miss Liberty' proves to be a model nurse

By Roger Boye

HERE ARE some questions from readers, with, hopefully, some helpful answers.

Q—I have an almost complete collection of liberty standing quarters made from 1916 to 1930, several of them in the better conditions. I would like to display them and include in the display some information about the figure of liberty. Did the coin's designer use a living model? If so, who was she? Whatever information you could give would be most appreciated—R.C., Evanston.

A—The designer, Hermon A. MacNeil, used a 22-year-old nurse, Dora Doscher, as a model, according to one reference. She was only 5 feet 4½ inches tall and very beautiful. She was also the model for the figure of the Pulitzer Fountain in New York City.

Incidentally, if you are going to display your coins, have them insured. Many of these quarters are valuable in the better conditions.

Q—I am a very modest coin collector who

would like some information on Canadian coins. Where can I buy a book on Canadian coins somewhat like our Blue or Red book?—M. S., Chicago.

A—A basic reference on Canadian coins is "1975 Standard Catalogue of Canadian Coins, Tokens and Paper Money," written by J. E. Charlton. It is published annually, sells for \$3.50, and can be purchased in most coin stores and in many book stores. It is published by Charlton International Publishing Co., 299 Queen St. West, Toronto, Ont. M5V 1Z9, Canada.

Q—I have a \$20 bill in very fine condition, series 1969A. There is a blank streak running through the bill on each side, making the bill longer than it should be. Does it have any value other than its face value?—A. L., Lincolnwood.

A—Yes, it does. It appears as if your bill became creased during the printing process. After the printing, it became unfolded, leaving a blank spot [streak] at the point of the fold and making the bill larger than normal.

It is difficult to estimate the value of your bill without seeing it, since its value will depend somewhat on the prominence of the streaks. Streak lines are one of the more common types of printing errors on paper money. However, I would be surprised to see a \$20 bill with streaks on the front and back offered for sale at a coin shop for less than \$30.

Q—Several bills in my collection are from Germany, issued during a period of great inflation. These notes are as follows [several listed, including one with a face value of 100 million marks, dated Aug. 22, 1923]. How would one go about finding the value of these notes?—B. H., Berwyn.

A—A good reference available locally is "Standard Catalog of World Paper Money," by Albert Pick. It sells for \$15, and is published by Krause Publications of Iola, Wis.

Most of your bills were produced in great quantities and sell today for less than \$2 in very fine condition. I will send you a detailed listing.